

To amend the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Act to expand after-school activities and services.

SEPTEMBER 20, 2000

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. GARY MILLER of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

To amend the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Act to expand after-school activities and services.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

4 The 21st Century Community Learning Centers Act
5 (20 U.S.C. 8241 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

6 **“PART I—21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING**
7 **CENTERS**

9 “This part may be cited as the ‘21st Century Com-
10 munity Learning Centers Act’.

1 **“SEC. 10902. FINDINGS.**

2 “Congress finds the following:

3 “(1) Each day during the school year, millions
4 of children return to unsupervised homes after
5 school. Each week, between 5,000,000 and
6 15,000,000 children return from school to empty
7 homes.

8 “(2) Child care experts believe that there is a
9 direct correlation between the degree of after-school
10 supervision and grade completion. Students who
11 have little or no after-school supervision are more
12 apt to receive poor grades or to drop out of school
13 than students who are engaged in supervised, con-
14 structive activities.

15 “(3) A recent study found that twice as many
16 parents want supervised after-school programs for
17 their children than are currently available.

18 “(4) Statistically, most juvenile crime takes
19 place between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
20 and our children are most at risk of being victims
21 of crime during the hours after school. Quality after-
22 school programs help to protect our children while
23 affording them enhanced opportunities to succeed
24 academically.

25 “(5) Twenty-first century community learning
26 centers serve as a marvelous local resource for our

1 communities to develop the best strategies to inte-
2 grate after-school programs into the whole education
3 of their youth. Strategies developed locally best fit
4 the unique needs of each community and those of its
5 school-aged citizens.

6 **“SEC. 10903. PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.**

7 “(a) GRANTS BY THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary is
8 authorized, in accordance with the provisions of this part,
9 to award grants to rural and inner-city schools and organi-
10 zations, or consortia of such schools or organizations, to
11 enable such schools or organizations to plan, implement,
12 or to expand after-school projects that benefit the edu-
13 cational, health, social service, cultural, and recreational
14 needs of a rural or inner-city youth.

15 “(b) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—In awarding
16 grants under this part, the Secretary shall assure an equi-
17 table distribution of assistance among the States, among
18 urban and rural areas of the United States, and among
19 urban and rural areas of a State.

20 “(c) GRANT PERIOD.—The Secretary shall award
21 grants under this part for a period not to exceed 3 years.

22 “(d) AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall not award a
23 grant under this part in any fiscal year in an amount less
24 than \$40,000.

1 **“SEC. 10904. APPLICATION REQUIRED.**

2 “(a) APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive a grant
3 under this part, a school or organization, or consortia of
4 such schools or organizations, shall submit an application
5 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accom-
6 panied by such information as the Secretary may reason-
7 ably prescribe. Each such application shall include—

8 “(1) a comprehensive local plan that enables
9 the school or organization, or consortia of such
10 schools or organizations, to serve as a center for the
11 delivery of education and human resources for youth
12 through after-school programs;

13 “(2) an evaluation of the needs, available re-
14 sources, and goals and objectives for the proposed
15 project in order to determine which activities will be
16 undertaken to address such needs; and

17 “(3) a description of the proposed project,
18 including—

19 “(A) a description of the mechanism that
20 will be used to disseminate information in a
21 manner that is understandable and accessible to
22 the community;

23 “(B) identification of Federal, State, and
24 local programs to be merged or coordinated so
25 that public resources may be maximized;

1 “(C) a description of the collaborative ef-
2 forts to be undertaken by community-based or-
3 ganizations, related public agencies, businesses,
4 or other appropriate organizations;

5 “(D) a description of how the school, orga-
6 nization, or consortia of such schools or organi-
7 zations, will serve as a delivery center for exist-
8 ing and new after-school services; and

9 “(E) an assurance that the school, organi-
10 zation, or consortia of such schools or organiza-
11 tions, will establish a facility utilization policy
12 that specifically states—

13 “(i) the rules and regulations applica-
14 ble to building and equipment use; and

15 “(ii) supervision guidelines.

16 “(b) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority to
17 applications describing projects that offer a broad selec-
18 tion of services which address the needs of youth in after-
19 school programs.

20 **“SEC. 10905. USES OF FUNDS.**

21 “Grants awarded under this part may be used to
22 plan, implement, or expand community learning centers.

23 **“SEC. 10906. DEFINITIONS.**

24 “For the purpose of this part—

1 “(1) the term “community learning center”
2 means an entity that provides educational, rec-
3 reational, health, and social service programs for
4 youth within a local community;

5 “(2) the term “organization” means a youth
6 development group, local charity, religious organiza-
7 tion, community-based organization, or faith-based
8 organization;

9 “(3) the term “school” means a public elemen-
10 tary or secondary school.

11 “(4) the term “after-school program” means a
12 child care program to assist working parents when
13 school is not in session, including before- and after-
14 school, weekends, holidays, and vacations.

15 **“SEC. 10907. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

16 “‘There are authorized to be appropriated
17 \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, and such sums as
18 may be necessary for each succeeding fiscal year there-
19 after, to carry out this part.’”.

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